



WGFD

Conserving Wildlife, Serving People

Cody Regional Office
2820 State Highway 120
Cody, WY 82414
Phone: (307) 527-7322 ext. *817 • Fax: (307) 587-5430
<http://gf.state.wy.us>

News Release

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Contact: Tara Teaschner
Tara.Teaschner@wyo.gov

GRIZZLY BEAR RELOCATED

Cody -The Wyoming Game and Fish Department trapped and relocated an adult male grizzly bear on April 15, 2012.

The bear was captured for frequenting ranch housing areas on the Wood River, west of Meeteetse, WY. In cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the bear was relocated to the Mormon Creek drainage on the North Fork of the Shoshone River northwest of Cody, WY. The release site is located in currently occupied grizzly bear habitat.

Grizzly bear relocation is a management tool afforded bear management personnel to minimize conflicts between humans and grizzlies. The decision to relocate and the selection of a relocation site is made taking into consideration the age, sex, and type of conflict the bear was involved in. Since grizzly bears are listed as “Threatened” under the Endangered Species Act, consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the appropriate land management agency is also made to minimize the chance of future conflicts and maximize the survival potential of the relocated grizzlies. Bears are relocated in accordance with federal law and regulation. When selecting a relocation site, the Department makes every consideration to minimize potential conflicts with livestock and people.

Bears can create conflicts after they have obtained food rewards. The Department continues to stress the importance of keeping all attractants (food items, horse feeds, bird seed, and others) unavailable to bears. Reducing attractants reduces human-bear conflicts.

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